



Christianity vs. The World
Islam - The Ministry of Grace
Titus 2:11-14
August 10, 2014

Islam and Christianity

Islam along with Judaism and Christianity is considered to be one of the three monotheistic faiths descended from Abraham (Ibrahim in Arabic).

It is the Islamic tradition that Muhammad descended from Abraham's son Ishmael. Jewish tradition also equates the descendants of Ishmael, Ishmaelites, with Arabs, as the descendants of Isaac by Jacob, who was also later known as Israel, are the Israelites.

In the Islamic worldview Allah is Creator and sustainer of everything, all knowing, all powerful, and is present everywhere. Jesus, called "Isa" in the Quran is considered a Prophet of Allah. He is called "Messiah" and "a sign for all peoples" and was born of a virgin. The Holy Spirit does appear in the Quran as well offering guidance to the Muslim to help him follow the will of Allah.

On the surface Christianity and Islam seem to be very similar. Once you get into even the basic doctrines, things are much more conflicting than initially determined.

Today's message, the Ministry of Grace focuses on one of the core doctrines that draws clear distinctions between biblical Christianity and the Islamic worldview.

Context of the Book of Titus

In this letter Paul provides Titus instructions on the qualifications of Elders (1:5-9), the existence of false teachers (1:10-16), and instructions of proper Christian living in contrast to the False Teachers (2:1-10-3:8).

Context of Chapter 2

The overarching theme of chapter 2 is that the right doctrine leads to the right behavior. And at the center of this theme is the Gospel through which grace appeared and ministers to those who believe.

One Commentary in regards to the Biblical Doctrine of Grace states - No other system of religious thought, past or present, contains an emphasis on divine grace comparable to that of the Bible

Grace Saves

- Salvation by grace alone is necessary because of the nature of man.
- Salvation by grace is possible because of the nature of God.
- Salvation by grace is realized only on the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ.

This doctrine of Grace is completely foreign to Islamic teaching.

Jesus did not come to show people how to earn their way to God. Jesus came to save those who are enemies of God, destitute in their sins, and unable to please God.

Grace also enables us to live in an Upright fashion

Grace enables us to live a Godly Life

Grace Instructs us To Look To the Future - Titus 2:13

Grace Saves Us

Grace Instructs Us

Grace Purifies us for Christ

The lack of a Redeemer of Sins and the associated Grace of God in the Islamic faith is a significant influence on those that would kill in the name of Allah. However, we have to understand that for the Muslim, there is no guarantee of forgiveness, there is no assurance of salvation, and there is no certainty of paradise, unless you die as a Martyr fighting against the enemies of Allah.

Now it is obvious that not all Muslims subscribe to these teachings as the vast majority of Muslims are peaceful people.

Pray for the Christians being dispersed and persecuted by Muslims and other religions. Also, pray hard for the Muslim people including those that are radical. They need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ as much as any other lost person.

Only the grace of God can Save us from our sin, Instruct us in living Godly lives in the present, and Purify us for the coming return of our Savior. This is the ministry of the Grace of God, may we proclaim it to all who can hear until we Christ returns.

Food For Thought: The redeeming gospel of Jesus Christ is offered by God's grace alone and no amount of self-righteousness, religion, or good works can earn it.

1. How much have you focused on self-control and doing good in your life?
 2. In what situation do you least exhibit your faith: a check-out line? Fender-bender? Tough exam? Athletics? Other?
 3. How does this text and message influence the way you look at and think about Muslims?
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Bible Text
Titus 2:11-14
(ESV)

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Summer at C.C.C Continues!

Next Sunday, August 17th, we will continue in our current series, Christianity vs. The World – Judaism. The message will deal with the differences and issues between Biblical Christianity and the very roots of our faith – the religion of the Old Testament.

Have your Friends and Family Ever Wondered: - *What is the difference between Christianity and Jehovah's Witnesses? Mormonism? Islam? Catholicism? Judaism? Atheism? Why does it matter?*

Invite friends and family to the *Summer at CCC* in the quest to make disciples and get answers to such questions

August 17 – Christianity vs Judaism

C.C.C. Media Ministry: if you missed a recent message and would like to catch-up or would like to download them to your MP3 player, you can access our most recent inventory at <http://www.sermonaudio.com/christcommchurch>. **Our sermons are now available in Spanish on this site.**



sermonaudio.com

Pastor Bernie's weekly "My Captive Thought" blog is available on-line at <http://mycaptiveThought.wordpress.com/>.

Christ Community Church Web Page

Please be sure to visit our recently updated web page!

Lots of information and quick links to selected sermons in English and Spanish. Links to our Facebook page, sermon audio page, and Pastor Bernie's Blog. Be sure to check out the Announcements to keep up with our current series and what's next!

Our Mission: Christ Community Church exists to worship God, fellowship in community and build the body of Christ by making disciples, baptizing them and teaching them until the Lord Jesus Christ returns (Acts 2:42-47, Mt. 28:18-20, Eph. 4:11-16).

Rev. Bernie Diaz
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"Love God, Love People"



And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and prayers. – Acts 2:42 (NKJV)